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RaRa HAMFEST '99 Ed Gable, K2MP, Becomes Amateur of the Year

Atlantic Division Award Winners

By Kay Craig, WT3P
Atlantic Division Director

The Atlantic Division is pleased to recognize the following hams who have been selected as winners of the 1999 Atlantic Division awards. This group of winners well symbolizes the turn of the century era in which we live. Our Amateur of the Year devotes his efforts to conserving the record of wireless history, while our Technical Achievement winner presses the cutting edge of research out into space.

AMATEUR OF THE YEAR - EDWARD GABLE K2MP

Ed Gable K2MP is from Hilton, NY. He is an active member of the Rochester DX Association and currently serves the club as secretary-treasurer. He has also volunteered for the Rochester Amateur Radio Association. Ed is known for giving outstanding programs at radio club meetings. He holds an Assistant Section Manager appointment in Western NY Section, in addition to an appointment as an Assistant Director in the Atlantic Division.

After radio historian Bruce Kelley, W2ICE became a Silent Key, Ed Gable, K2MP became curator of the Antique Wireless Association museum. This major collection of



information and artifacts is an important resource on American history and has particular significance for hams, because so much of the early work in wireless was done by experimenters who were hams. At the same time as we look forward towards a new century and a bright future for Amateur Radio, it is essential to remember where we came from and honor those who went before us. Ed's work with AWA helps us keep that perspective.

The Amateur of the Year award is as much about character and care for others as it is about activities. The ham who nominated Ed for the award related the following anecdote that illustrates the character of the man: "I recall one year at the Syracuse Hamfest when, in passing, I told Ed that I had just seen a Hallicrafters S-41G just like the one that I had for my first receiver. A number of years went by. At the Buffalo Hamfest, Ed took me to his car and said, 'Here, this is for you.' There it was -- an original S-41G in full operating condition.

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The Prez Sez...

by Rick Wells, W2RW, President RARA

Well folks, the Prez doesn't say much because he ain't the prez no more. The official pass-the-baton happened at the Hamfest banquet. Your new president, who you'll be hearing from next season, is Bob Moore, N2USB. Bob will no doubt bring a different perspective to things because he has a different ham radio background and different operating interests than I. The Friday evening banquet was enjoyable with the ARRL awards and presentations for our Atlantic division not to mention the prime rib dinner. If you didn't attend you might think about it for next year. It's a nice finish to a busy hamfesting day.

Speaking of which, I hope you were at the Hamfest and had as much fun as I did. There was certainly a lot of speculation about whether it was "up" or "down" from last year. I can assure you of a couple of things at least. The WX was perfect with the temps and just the right amount of sun, and there were plenty of fleas both Friday and Saturday. It was interesting that at the close of business Saturday, one of the dealers in the dome said he had sold more on Friday alone than he had both days last year. I'll take that as a good sign even though there were a few empty booths. Wonder how the wiper blade guy made out?

Thanks to all of you who stopped by the RARA booth to renew and also to help out for a while. My compliments to John W8JW, on the fine job of putting the slide presentation together. It caught the attention of quite a few people and was a great showing of the club's accomplishments during the past season with public service events and the Radio Coaches program.

Thank you for all your contributions to the club and its various activities this year. Please give your full support to your new president during the upcoming season. Have a great summer and don't forget to CQ Field Day on June 27th.

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GRAND OLE HAM - ANGELO DeFAZIO W2SRP

Ange DeFazio W2SRP, who will be 85 years old in October, is from Batavia, NY. A licensed ham since 1934, his original callsign was W8LRT. A charter member of the Genesee Radio Amateurs club, he teaches Morse code classes and takes part in Field Day and public service events. He is credited with helping many people earn their ham licenses in the Batavia area. He has also been a member of Air Force MARS.



Ange served in the U.S. Navy during World War II, mostly on submarines. Before retirement, he was employed as a machinist. Today, in addition to his ham radio activity, he volunteers at least 2 days a week at the VA medical center in Batavia. Sometimes he presents programs to the patients about ham radio, but he will do whatever the hospital asks of him to help the vets. When hospital authorities told a patient who was a ham to stop using his 2m rig, Ange obtained technical information from the ARRL which helped convince the hospital to allow the ham vet to use his rig again.

One of the hams from GRAM remembers Ange's help to newcomers in the days after World War II: "He got many of us started back when it was not so easy to get a ham license.

There was no Novice class. You had to start out with 13 wpm and you had to go to the Buffalo FCC office to take your exam. He used to take us to hamfests, back in the '50s" The ham goes on to say, "He would never refuse to help in any ham-related project." Ange was an active builder and always tried to have the kind of equipment that would promote others' interest in learning more about radio.

The Grand Ole Ham award winners are people we should emulate in our lives as hams. Clearly, Ange DeFazio W2SRP is a Grand Ole Ham.

TECHNICAL ACHIEVEMENT –

PAUL SHUCH N6TX

Paul Shuch N6TX, from Cogan Station, Pennsylvania, receives the Technical Achievement award for his diverse contributions to the Amateur Radio technical arts. First licensed in 1961, he is the author of more than 200 publications, about half of them in ham radio publications. He contributed a seminal series of articles in Ham Radio magazine in the 1970's, introducing microstrip construction to a whole generation of hams. His work has appeared in QST, 73, and Communications Quarterly, in addition to many AMSAT Proceedings and other conference compilations.



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His inventions include the first commercial satellite TV receiver, the first S-band WEFAX downconverter, and the patented BiDCAS aircraft anti-collision radar. Recently, he has designed a line of Amateur Radio astronomy equipment for the 21 cm hydrogen-line region.

Paul moved to the Atlantic Division in 1990 as a professor at Penn State University. In 1998, he retired from a 24-year career as a professor in electronics to devote full time to promoting Amateur Radio astronomy worldwide in the Search for Extra-Terrestrial Intelligence (SETI League). He travels extensively, addressing local ham clubs and other interested groups on setting up their own radio telescopes.

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RagChew

by Lloyd R. Caves, WB2EFU

Hopefully everyone enjoyed the Rochester Hamfest. It was a great show and it was good to see so many people that you don't see that often. There were many pieces of used equipment that changed hands as well as new radios that were showing up on the air. This must mean that there is a lot of happy people out there. Everyone at RARA hopes so. This show is a large undertaking with great effort going into making it a success by quite a handful of dedicated people.

I hope that you were one of the folks that made it to the awards banquet on Friday evening. If not you missed out on a good time and seeing the recipients of the Atlantic Division Awards beam when they accepted their awards. The Amateur of the Year went to Ed Gable, K2MP one of RARA's own members and past president. The Grand Ole Ham was presented to Angelo DeFazio, W2SRP of Batavia and the Technical Achievement award went to Dr. Paul Shuch of Cogan Station, Pennsylvania. Congratulations to you gentlemen! More information on the awards can be found in another article in this issue of the *Rag*.

Harry Dannals, W2HD told everyone that this was going to be his last trip to Rochester after twenty some years of being with us. Everyone that heard this news understands but doesn't like it. Harry, you will be missed and you still have an open invitation should you change your mind. One thing this announcement did was bring over 40 people into the meeting room where Harry was giving his presentation on CW.

There were a few minor things that had to be corrected in a hurry to keep the Hamfest running smoothly. For instance, at nine o'clock on Saturday morning when the first drawing was made for the one hundred dollars the PA system would not work to announce it. The reason was that someone had disconnected the PA system to move it to another room. This was soon taken care of and the system was returned and reconnected.

In another case, the room for one of the

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programs was over filled and the program was quickly moved to another area to give them more room. Also, there was one program that did not get held as the speaker did not make it. The reason being, Rick Sykes', WA2EIV father took very ill at the age of 99 just as Rick was about to leave home to come to the Hamfest. It is good to know that his father is well now and doing great so maybe we will be able to schedule Rick for next years event.

These that had to be attended to as the weekend went on. Most of them were never noticed by anyone other than a committee person that took care of them before they became big issues. It is through their work that you get to enjoy yourself and have a great Hamfest to be proud of. Everyone should be thankful to those that work on the Hamfest, weather it is Harold Smith, General Chairman; Ed Holdsworth, Assistant General Chairman; the Coolies that do the setting up and tearing down; or other committee chairman that keep different aspects of things going. Even the guard that chased a car onto the grounds only to find that it was one of the Dome employees. Next year they will do it all again for you.

Public Service-1999

By Ed Holdsworth, N2EH

The time has come to get out your calendar and record the dates for all the public service events. The following dates have been set:

Stuart Horse Trials	Sat. July 31
Walnut Hill Driving Comp.	Wed-Sun Aug.18-22
R. E. Ginna Nuclear Exercise	
Predrill	Wed. Oct. 6
Observed Drill	Wed. Nov 17
ADA Walk-A-Thon	Sun. Oct. 3
Pumpkin Patrol	Sat. Oct. 30

The following are scheduled, however no date have been determined:

Corporate Challenge
Henrietta Dualathon
Geneseo Hunt Club

These are the events as of March '99. Additional dates will be published as they become available. If you are interested in working an event or more, contact Ed Holdsworth, at (716) 624-1929, or use sign up sheets at the meetings.

AWA Museum of Electronic Communication

By Ed Gable, K2MP, W2AN

The AWA museum is open for the season and invites all RaRa members to drop by for a visit. The hours are 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Saturdays and 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. on Sundays. The museum is located an easy drive away on Rte 5&20 in East Bloomfield, just across from the Village Green. Admission is free and Curator Ed Gable, K2MP, promises you an enjoyable, entertaining and educational experience for you and the family. Be sure to ask for a free copy of the AWA OTB publication. Special group tours can be arranged by calling the Curator at 716.392.3088 or via k2mp@eznet.net

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RaRa Rag 20 Years Ago

Ed Gable K2MP

June 1979: A full cover spread announced the death of popular Radio Amateur and local radio broadcaster Eddie Dunn, W2XT. (Ex K5ONX, WA2KMI and W2ECH) Eddie was a past RaRa President and will be remembered by all as the effervescent Master of Ceremony for many years at Rochester Hamfest Banquets. He was very popular on WHAM and was one of the first radio hosts in the country to use the radio call in format on his daily *Opinion Program*. Proud of being a Texan his special brand of humor reached us all. New RaRa Officers for the 79/80 season were announced: President, Alan Komenski AC2K, VP is Otto Bluntzer WB2RJB, Secretary to Don Drennon W2EBF and Treasurer is Ron Jakubowski K2RJ. On the Board were Jim Collinsworth N2JC, Bob Erskine W2NVZ, Ed Gable K2MP, Ed Holdsworth N2EH, Harold Smith K2HC, Len Gessin WA2ZNC and Jim O'Brien K2UDP. Dues was set at \$6.00. RRRRA announced one of their popular 2 meter FM transmitter hunts. Ed Gable, K2MP and Ron Jakubowski K2RJ will be the hidden TX due to their winning the last event. Powder Mill Park will be the site of the RaRa June Picnic with fun & Games at 2:00 and the hot dogs at 4:00. Hamtronics of Hilton, NY announced a new 24 page catalog, yours for the asking. From the Want Ads you could buy items from the Larry Triggs estate being handled by Linc Cundall, W2QY.

Disorder in the Court

Q: Were you present when your picture was taken?

Q: Was it you or your younger brother who was killed in the war?

Q: How far apart were the vehicles at the time of the collision?

Q: You say the stairs went down to the basement?

A: Yes.

Q: And these stairs, did they go up also?

QRZ'd with Alex, NV2Y

Guessing Here?

I will make you a bet, and I think I will win. I can predict who will win the nomination for RaRa Board Member at the yearly election. Have you noticed that the Board Members are elected by the numbers, that is, the first seven people listed on the ballot win. Just so as to keep you from losing your bet, let me state the observation of those who watch democracy in action, we have seen this happen for the last five years that we have taken note. Names are listed alphabetically on the ballot. Now, if you are running for election to the Board you can smile or frown when you see where your name is on the ballot.

Spring 1999 License Class Wrap Up

by Rick Wells, W2RW, President

Congratulations to all the spring semester new licensees and upgrades. All of you are to be commended on putting forth the effort to earn your callsign (which is unique world-wide) or upgrade. Enjoy your new privileges in this great hobby. Unlike the Internet and some other radio services that thrive on anonymity, you can be proud of your callsign and you name because you learned the material and demonstrated your newly acquired expertise by passing the exam(s). I will be pleased to work you on the air.

It was great to see some of you new licensees at the Hamfest with your new or slightly used, radios. Please jump right in, grab that mic (or key) and get your feet wet. Everybody, even we old timers with the short calls and decades of experience, started somewhere. Don't worry about "making a mistake". Also, please call upon the many resources available to help you: the club; your instructors; and the League (I hope you signed up for League [ARRL] membership).

Finally, I'd like to thank Tim WB2KAO, our class director, for coordinating the licensing activity this year, our staff of

instructors, and George's AA2FO, VE team. as of this writing, we will all be back in the Fall. Check out the results; ten new hams, two upgrades, and also some unlisted "elements passed" for our soon-to-be Extras. Also, look at how many of our new licensees are "know code". And they say that ham radio and Morse code are in a decline. Bogus! Thanks everyone for a productive semester. This will be hard to top next year.

Chris Dekdebrun	not yet rev'd
Tech-Plus	new
Chester Dombroski	KC2EYL
Tech-Plus	new
Mikail Orlovsky	KC2EVV
Tech-Plus	new
Howard Greenwald	KC2ERG
Tech	new
Timmy Brown	KC2FEQ
Novice	new
Sara Beth Brown*	KC2FES
Tech-Plus	new
Julie Brown	KC2FER
Tech-Plus	new/upgrade
Vince Mc Avoy	KC2FCV
Tech-Plus	new
Matt Bernabei	KC2EVW
Tech-Plus	new
Brian Edelstein	K2SWE Tech
new (vanity)	
Jimmy Brown**	KC2EMS
General	upgrade
Jamie Ananko***	N3ZSS General
upgrade	

* -- From what I saw, when Sara Beth finished the 5 WPM, she just handed in her copy (100% from VVV to SK) and didn't need to bother answering the questions. Way to go, Sara!!!

** -- Jimmy wanted to take the 20 WPM but due to a mix up, the VE team was unable to find an exam tape so he had to settle for 13 WPM. Guess you'll just have to take the 20 later, Jimmy, maybe next year, when you go for Extra.

*** -- Was seen pulling around a new (used) radio in a wagon at the Hamfest.

HAMFEST '99 REVISITED

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